

**Department of Mental Health
Exceptions Committee Meeting**

September 7, 2004

Minutes

In attendance were Jodi Frederick, Julie Carel, Jennifer Wyble by telephone and coordinator Richard Overmann.

Michael Harrison requested an exception under 9 CSR 10-5.190 and is supported by Benilde Hall of Kansas City; this agency supports Mr. Harrison's desire to work as a Substance Abuse Counselor treatment trainee in Imani House. The disqualifying crime was second degree robbery and it occurred in 1982. Mr. Harrison stated that the crime was alcohol related. The committee expressed some concerns that he began substance abuse treatment recently and is currently in treatment. The committee is asking for additional information regarding the circumstances that led Mr. Harrison into treatment at this time.

Northstar Residential Care, Inc, Independence, requested an exception to allow the director, David North, to act as Qualified Mental Retardation Professional. He has a bachelor's degree in Bible and this does not meet that part of the federal definition (see Section 483.430) that requires a college degree in a human service field. The committee noted that Mr. North has twenty-four college credit-hours in human services and that he has worked in the field of developmental disabilities since 1985. The committee approved the request.

New Beginnings requested an exception on behalf of Linda Hewlett in order to allow her to work as a community support worker in the agency's adolescent program. Ms. Hewlett does not meet the qualifications for Community Support Worker under 9 CSR 30-3.110 because her degree is in political science which is not considered a qualifying major under this rule. The committee approved the request in consideration of Ms. Hewlett's two year's experience with youth and the fact that her college work includes at least eighteen credit hours in the human service field.

Hopewell Center, St. Louis. The committee renewed its consideration of a request from this agency. The following is an excerpt from the minutes of the committee's meeting on August 6, 2004.

Hopewell Center, St. Louis requested a waiver of fire safety rules under 9 CSR 40-10.155 requiring two exits from each floor. The administrator alleges that the building was previously certified by the department and no mention was made of the two exits. The state fire marshal inspected the building and limited approval to the first floor because the second floor does not have two exits. The committee decided to obtain more information from the Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety, to include a recommendation on the disposition of the request.

At the September meeting the committee reviewed a response from Mr. Randy Cole, assistant State Fire Marshal, in which he recommended that the exception not be granted. The committee denied the exception.

September 9, 2004

Clarissa Cobb-Fritz
New Beginnings
3901 N. Union Blvd.
Ste. 101
St. Louis, MO 63115

Dear Ms.Cobb-Frits:

On September 8, 2004 the Department of Mental Health Exceptions Committee reviewed your request for an exception, dated August 5, 2004, to allow Ms. Linda Hewlett to serve as a Community Support Worker. The committee approved the request in consideration of Ms. Hewlett's two years experience with youth and the fact that her college work includes at least eighteen credit hours in the human service field.

If you have any questions in this matter, please contact me at 573-751-8077.

Sincerely.

Richard H. Overmann
Exceptions Committee Coordinator

September 9, 2004

Michael Harrison
3220 East 23rd Street
Kansas City, MO 64127-4201

Dear Mr. Harrison:

On September 7, 2004 the Department of Mental Health Exceptions Committee reviewed your request for an exception dated August 12, 2004. You stated the disqualifying crime occurred in 1982 and it was alcohol related. The committee expressed some concerns you are currently receiving substance abuse treatment and requested additional information concerning the circumstances that led to you being in treatment at this time.

If you have any questions in this matter, please contact me at 573-751-8077.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Overmann
Exceptions Committee Coordinator

September 9, 2004

David North, Director
North Star Residential Care, Inc.
18805 Hanthorn Dr.
Independence, MO 64057

Dear Mr. North :

On September 8, 2004, the Department of Mental Health Exceptions Committee reviewed your request for an exception dated August 18, 2004. The committee noted that you have twenty-four college credit-hours in human services and that you have worked in the field of developmental disabilities since 1985. The committee approved the request.

If you have any questions in this matter, please give me a call at 573-751-8077.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Overmann
Exceptions Committee Coordinator

September 9, 2004

Regina Trotter
Hopewell Center
1504 South Grand
St. Louis, MO 63104

Dear Ms. Trotter:

On September 7, 2004 renewed its consideration of your request for an exception of fire safety requirements under 9 CSR 40-10.155. In consultation with the Missouri Division of Fire Safety, the committee decided to deny your request for a waiver of the rules requiring two exits for each floor used by clients.

If you have any questions in this matter, please give me a call at 573-751-8077.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Overmann
Exceptions Committee Coordinator

Cc Randy L. Cole, Asst. State Fire Marshal